

REMARKS

The applicant elects, with traverse, the claims of Group I (claims 1-39 and 70).

Claim 40 has been amended to depend from elected claim 6. Thus, claim 6 is a generic linking claim. If claim 6 is allowed, claims 40 and 41 should be rejoined. (See MPEP 809.)

Claim 42 of Group II was not properly restricted because it is not patentably distinct from elected claim 6. (See MPEP 802.01 and 806(c).) Accordingly, claim 42 should be examined. Since claims 43-46 depend from claim 42, claim 42 is generic to these claims. Accordingly, if generic claim 42 is allowed, claims 43-46 should be rejoined.

Claim 47 of Group II was not properly restricted because it is not patentable over elected claim 3. Accordingly, claim 47 should be examined. Since claims 48-51 depend from claim 47, claim 47 is generic to these claims. Accordingly, if generic claim 47 is allowed, claims 48-51 should be rejoined.

Claim 52 of Group II was not properly restricted because it is not patentable over elected claim 3. Accordingly, claim 52 should be examined.

Claim 53 has been amended to depend from elected claim 5. Thus, claim 5 is a generic linking claim. If claim 5 is allowed, claims 53-55 should be rejoined.

Claim 56 of Group II was not properly restricted because it is not patentable over elected claim 18. Accordingly, claim 56 should be examined.

Claim 57 of Group II has been amended to depend from elected claim 35. Thus, claim 35 is a generic linking

claim. If claim 35 is allowed, claim 57 should be rejoined.

Claims 58 and 59 have been canceled.

Claims 60 and 61 of Group II have each been amended to depend from elected claim 29. Thus, claim 29 is a generic linking claim. Accordingly, if claim 29 is allowed, claims 60 and 61 should be rejoined.

Claim 62 of Group III was not properly restricted because it is not patentably distinct from elected claim 38. Accordingly, claim 62 should be examined.

Claim 63 of Group III has each been amended to depend from elected claim 6. Thus, claim 6 is a generic linking claim. If claim 6 is allowed, claim 63 should be rejoined.

Claim 64 of Group III was not properly restricted because it is not patentably distinct from elected claim 1. Accordingly, claim 64 should be examined.

Claim 65 of Group III was not properly restricted because it is not patentable over elected claim 3. Accordingly, claim 65 should be examined.

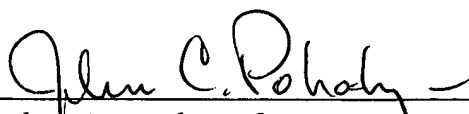
Claim 66 of Group III was not properly restricted because it is not patentable over elected claim 4. Accordingly, claim 66 should be examined. Since claims 67 and 68 depend from claim 66, claim 66 is generic to these claims. Accordingly, if generic claim 66 is allowed, claims 67 and 68 should be rejoined.

Claim 69 of Group IV was not properly restricted because it is not patentable over elected claim 18. Accordingly, claim 68 should be examined.

Applicant preserves the right to file a divisional application to the non-elected claims in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

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John C. Pokotylo, Attorney
Reg. No. 36,242
Tel.: (732) 542-9070

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John C. Pokotylo

36,242
Reg. No.